NEWS

THE CLEVELAND MUSEUM OF ART

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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The Cleveland Museum of Art Hosts 2007 Parade the Circle Workshops

Two Museums Teaming Up to Prepare Parade Entries

CLEVELAND (March 28, 2007) — The Cleveland Museum of Art (CMA) announced today that The Cleveland Museum of Natural History will be joining with the CMA by providing the location for the parade tents, which are a vital component of the art museum's pre-parade public workshops. These workshops, staffed with professional artists, enable participants to create their entries for the June 9 Parade the Circle. This year's workshops will be held on Fridays, April 27-June 8 (6-9 p.m.); Saturdays, April 28 – June 2 (1:30 – 4:30 p.m.); and Sundays, April 29-June 3 (1:30 – 4:30 p.m.), continuing until Parade Day.

Parade the Circle is an annual community arts event presented by the Cleveland Museum of Art. University Circle Incorporated (UCI.) presents Circle Village. The daylong event is **free** to the public and features a parade, family activities by 30 University Circle organizations, food and performing artists. Attracting more than 50,000 spectators and 2,000 participants, Parade the Circle is a cherished Cleveland tradition, begun 17 years ago in 1990. The Parade Workshops commence six weeks prior to the day of the parade. Parade artists assist participants in creating their own masks, costumes and giant puppets at the public workshops. Parade registration is $5 per person and will include a program listing if completed by May 20.

Artists from Greater Cleveland, Brazil, Canada, Connecticut, New York, and Trinidad and Tobago, will be on hand to provide creative and artistic inspiration to participants as they create their Parade entries.

Basic, Special Workshops Held in Two Locations

This year's workshops, which include basic, batik and stilt sessions, will be held in two locations, The Cleveland Museum of Art's new classrooms and tents at The Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Children under 15-years-old must register and attend with an older person. Workshop registration fees also include the parade entry fee. Group rates are available. Workshop passes ($30 for individuals; $100 for families of up to five, plus $20 for each additional person),

entitle participants to attend all basic workshop sessions. **Basic workshops** feature artists who will assist participants in making masks, costumes and giant puppets using paper mache, cloth and recycled materials.

PTC Workshops 2007/2

Batik, Stilt-Dancing Workshops Offered

The Museum also offers Special Workshops for batik and stilt-dancing. In special **Batik Workshops** held at CMA, offered on Saturdays, May 5 – June 2 (10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.), participants will learn how to batik their own colorful parade costume or banner, cost $25 (with pass) and fabric is available at cost.

An introductory drop in **Stilt Weekend** will be offered for free Saturday, May 12 and Sunday May 13 from 1:30 to 4:30 p.m. outside the natural history museum. Canadian stilters Brad Harley and Rick Simon give everyone an opportunity to try walking on stilts. The event is open to the public. Workshop pass holders will be given priority and children must be at least 10 years old. Pass holders who wish to stilt-dance during the Parade, may order stilts **only** during the stilt weekend for $40. Participants may keep stilts after safety training taught by seasoned paraders Sarah Alhaddad and Gerald Abt. Paraders can learn the art of stilt-dancing in addition to stilt safety and stilt tying in **Stilt-dancing for Paraders** sessions offered for novices on Saturdays, May 19-June 2 (10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.), and advanced dancers (1:30 – 4:30 p.m.). The stilt workshops are free to participants with workshop passes.

To register for workshops, stop by the parade tents at the natural history museum during any scheduled workshop time; register for batik only at CMA classrooms. For more information call the museum's community arts office at (216) 707-2483.

No written words, logos, motorized vehicles or live animals (with the exception of wheelchairs and assist dogs) are allowed in the Parade; entries should not propagandize a particular political or religious belief. Those who are creating Parade entries on their own should also register ($5-per person) during scheduled workshop times.

Parade the Circle is presented by the Cleveland Museum of Art. Circle Village is presented by University Circle Inc. Parade the Circle is sponsored by CMA Community Arts Partner Medical Mutual, leading health insurer of the Cleveland Museum of Art, and the Womens Council of the Cleveland Museum of Art. Additional support from the Ohio Arts Council, which **helped fund this program with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, educational excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans;** University Hospitals; and the Cleveland Museum of Natural History. Promotional support is provided by 89.7 WKSU and Cleveland Magazine.

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